

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 14-17, and 19-23 are pending. Claims 1 and 14 are amended. Claims 13 and 18 are canceled without prejudice.

Applicants submit that the amendments do not add new material to the current Application. No amendment made is related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made is for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claims, unless Applicants argue herein that such amendment is made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

Claims 1-12, 14-17, and 19-23 are patentable over the cited prior art.

The previous office action stated that claims 13 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 14 to include claims 13 and 18, respectively. Furthermore, the 112 rejection of claims 1-13 is moot because Applicants have deleted the phrase in claim 1 that was the basis for the 112 rejection. For at least these reasons claims 1-12, 14-17, and 19-22 are patentable. (Claims 2-12 depend from claim 1 and claims 15-17 and 19-22 depend from claim 13.)

The previous office action stated claim 23 was allowable. Therefore, all pending claims are now allowable.

Although the Office Action contains additional statements characterizing the claims, the specification, previous arguments, or the prior art Applicant refuses to subscribe to any of these statements, unless expressly indicated by Applicant regardless of whether such statements are addressed by Applicant.

Applicants earnestly solicit allowance of all pending claims. Please contact Applicant's practitioner listed below if there are any issues that can be resolved by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

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